

PATENTS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Hungerpiller, et al.)	Examiner: not assigned Group Art Unit: 3651
Filed:	01/24/2002)	

System and Method for Processing Returned Mail

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DEC 0 2 2002

GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Examiner's Action for the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims 1, 2, 7, 9 - 11, 16, 18 - 20, and 22 - 27, as set forth below, for claim claims 1, 2, 7, 9 - 11, 16, 18 - 20, and 22 - 27 as originally filed in the above-identified application. A copy of the amended claim showing the amendments made thereto, including additions being shown with underlining and deletions being shown in brackets, is attached in the appendix herewith.

A method for processing a plurality of undeliverable mail items comprising the steps of:
 encoding data including identification information on each of a plurality of mail
 items prior to mailing;